

Appropriations and Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 5, 2007

Call to order at 1:50 p.m.

Roll Call: Tribal Councilor Rita Shananaquet, Treasurer Shirley Oldman, Councilor Alice Yellowbank

Staff Attendance: Legislative Office Manager Michele LaCount, Donna L. Budnick, Legislative Services Attorney, Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie, Education Director Melissa Claramunt

Guests: Legislative Leader Beatrice A. Law, Tribal Chairman Frank Ettawageshik

Motion made by Councilor Yellowbank and supported by Tribal Councilor Rita Shananaquet to adopt the agenda for July 5, 2007 as corrected and amended.

Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 absent

Motion Carried

Motion by Tribal Councilor Rita Shananaquet and supported by Councilor Yellowbank to approve the minutes of June 27, 2007 as corrected.

Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 absent

Motion Carried

Tribal Chairman Frank Ettawageshik spoke regarding the Michelle Chingwa Education Assistance Act and had Melissa Claramunt the Education Director hand out the Michelle Chingwa Education Assistant Act projections with proposed resolution that lowers the per credit hour distribution.

2:30 p.m. Public Comment opened: no comments

2:30 p.m. Public comment closed

The Tribal Chairman explained projections for the education fund and is working on getting the Appropriations and Finance Committee the names of students who receive money.

The Tribal Chairman said there are no deadlines to submit for funding and priority is based on first come first served.

The Tribal Chairman is making recommendation for a resolution of the \$200.00/\$400.00 funding levels that would bring a budget modification increase of \$600,000.00 to Tribal Council.

The Committee discussed the language program and what type of student receives the grant money. Treasurer Oldman asked why we are using Bay Mills that does not accept the tuition waiver instead of using our own language department. Treasurer Oldman then asked for a list of students who attend the Bay Mills language program.

Councilor Yellowbank indicated that there is a need to prioritize the first come first served approach through resolution. Tribal Chairman stated he will provide the resolution.

Treasurer Oldman asked the Education Director Melissa Claramunt if students inform them of when they receive a degree. The answer was no, but the department will be instituting a new data base for such information.

There was discussion regarding changing the law so this does not happen next year.

The Tribal Chairman passed out information regarding discounts at the WasNoDe Buffet.

4:05 p.m. a 5-minute recess was called.

4:20 p.m. meeting reconvened.

Discussion continued regarding Tribal Citizen's discounts at casino food venues.

Motion made by Tribal Councilor Rita Shananaquet and supported by Councilor Yellowbank to recommend to Tribal Council a Tribal resolution that establishes Michelle Chingwa Education Assistance Act scholarship levels and a Tribal resolution for additional funding to the current Michelle Chingwa Education Assistance Act scholarship.

Vote: 3-yes, 0-no, 0-absent, 0-abstained

Motion Carried

Motion made by Councilor Yellowbank and supported by Tribal Councilor Rita Shananaquet to bale the Budget Resolution Process and Performance Measures until the next Appropriations and Finance Committee meeting.

Vote: 3-yes, 0-no, 0-absent, 0-abstained

Motion Carried

Treasurer Oldman discussed the internal audit for each department and program. The Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie stated that it is in the Rehmann Robson annual audit, or does the committee want internal audit reports such as the grants do. It was discussed that the Controller works with the external auditors and regarding internal audits, the Controller works with programs at that level.

Treasurer Oldman indicated the Appropriations and Finance Committee members need to start working on their own at home regarding the meeting procedures.

Discussion regarding costs and fines and a request for the Revenue Recognition Policy was requested of the Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie. The Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie said there is no official written policy as it is used more as a procedure.

Discussion regarding how third party revenue is appropriated back into the respective program budgets and how the surplus rolls over for the next year to be used as a tribal contribution.

Discussion regarding the Greenwood building and commodities building rentals. The Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie will bring back those numbers at the next Appropriations and Finance Committee meeting.

Discussion regarding gaming license fees going back into the program to off set tribal support costs.

Treasurer Oldman asked the Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie if when the table games director was terminated, was a severance package or any other monetary payment paid out. The Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie will check into this and bring to next Appropriations and Finance Committee meeting.

Treasurer Oldman asked the Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie to supply information regarding the Mike Petoskey contract and payments to the next Appropriations and Finance Committee meeting, the Tribal Chairman expenditures budget and the Capital Funds Policy regarding improvements and who oversees contracts and non money changes to contracts was also requested.

The next Appropriations and Finance Committee meeting will be held on July 19, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. for Committee members only. The next regular meeting will be on August 9, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.

Motion made by Tribal Councilor Rita Shananaquet and supported by Councilor Yellowbank to adjourn at 5:10 p.m.